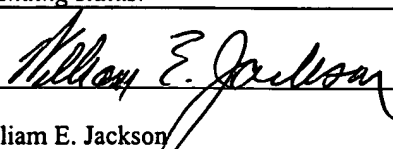


Customized FORM PTO-1390 (REV. 12-2001)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. P07569US00/WEJ	
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371				U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37CFR 1.5) 10/088,675	
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP00/08613		INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 04 September 2000		PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 22 September 1999	
TITLE OF INVENTION: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CLOSING A TANK OPENING					
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US: VAN SCHAFTINGEN et al.					
Applicant herewith submits to the US Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:					
<p>1. This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2. This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 USC 371.</p> <p>3. This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 USC 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</p> <p>4. The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).</p> <p>5. A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2))</p> <p> a. is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</p> <p> b. has been communicated by the International Bureau.</p> <p> c. is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 6. An English translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a. is attached hereto.</p> <p> b. has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>7. Amendments to the claims of the International Appln. under PCT Article 19 (35 USC 371 (c)(3))</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a. are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</p> <p> b. have been communicated by the International Bureau.</p> <p> c. have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</p> <p> d. have not been made and will not be made.</p> <p>8. An English translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 9. An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 10. An English translation of the annexes to the Int'l Pre. Exam. Report under PCT Article 36 (35 USC 371(c)(5)).</p> <p>Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:</p> <p>11. An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 12. An Assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 13. A First preliminary amendment.</p> <p>14. A Second or Subsequent preliminary amendment.</p> <p>15. A substitute specification.</p> <p>16. A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.</p> <p>17. A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 & 35 USC 1.821-825.</p> <p>18. A second copy of the published international application under 35 USC 154(d)(4).</p> <p>19. A second copy of the English translation of the international application under 35 USC 154(d)(4).</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20. Other items or information:</p> <p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the Notification of Missing Requirements under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In the event that a petition for extension of time is required to be submitted herewith, and in the event that a separate petition does not accompany this response, applicant hereby petitions under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an extension of time of as many months as are required to render this submission timely. Any fee is authorized in 21(c).</p>					
Date: August 12, 2002					

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known) 10/088,675		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP00/08613		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. P07569US00/WEJ	
X 21. The following fees are submitted: Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1)-(5): <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Neither Int'l Prelim. Exam. fee nor Int'l Search fee paid to USPTO \$1040 <input type="checkbox"/> Search Report has been prepared by the EPO or JPO \$ 890 <input type="checkbox"/> No Int'l Prelim. Ex. fee paid to USPTO but Int'l Search fee paid to USPTO \$ 740 <input type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTPO \$ 710 <input type="checkbox"/> Int'l Prelim. Ex. fee paid to USPTO & all claims satisfied PCT Art. 33(1)-(4) \$ 100 </div> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;"> ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT = </div>					CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY
X Surcharge of \$130 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than [] 20 mos. from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)). [] 30 mos. +					\$ 130.00
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total Claims	12 - 20 =	0	X \$18 =	\$	
Independent Claims	2 - 03 =	0	X \$84 =	\$	
X Multiple Dependent Claim(s) (if applicable)			+ \$280 =	\$	
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$ 130.00	
Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by ½.				-	\$
SUBTOTAL =				\$ 130.00	
X Processing fee of \$130 for furnishing the English translation later than [] 20 mos. from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)). [] 30 mos. +					\$ 130.00
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$ 260.00	
X Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40 per property					+ \$ 40.00
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ 300.00	
Amount to be				Refunded	\$
				Charged	\$
X a. A check in the amount of \$300.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed. b. Please charge my Deposit Account No. 12-0555 in the amount of \$ to cover the above fees. X c. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 12-0555.					
Note: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: William E. Jackson At the address (below) of CUSTOMER NO. 00881: LARSON & TAYLOR, PLC 1199 NORTH FAIRFAX ST. SUITE 900 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			Signature:  Name: William E. Jackson Reg. No.: 24,016 Phone No.: 703-739-4900 Date: August 12, 2002		

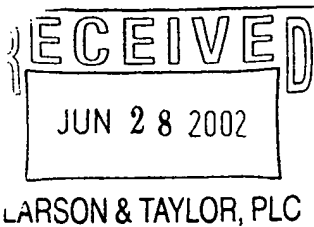


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents, Box PCT
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

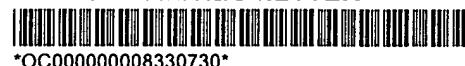
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
10/088,675	Van Schaftingen	PO7569US00/WEJ

00881
LARSON & TAYLOR, PLC
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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.	
PCT/EP00/08613	
I.A. FILING DATE	PRIORITY DATE
09/04/2000	09/22/1999

CONFIRMATION NO. 4821
371 FORMALITIES LETTER



OC000000008330730

Date Mailed: 06/21/2002

NOTIFICATION OF MISSING REQUIREMENTS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371 IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

The following items have been submitted by the applicant or the IB to the United States Patent and Trademark Office as an Elected Office (37 CFR 1.495):

- U.S. Basic National Fees
- Priority Document
- Copy of IPE Report
- Copy of references cited in ISR
- Copy of the International Application
- Copy of the International Search Report

The following items **MUST** be furnished within the period set forth below in order to complete the requirements for acceptance under 35 U.S.C. 371:

- Translation of the application into English.
- Processing fee for providing the translation of the application and/or the Annexes later than the appropriate 30 months from the priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).
- Oath or declaration of the inventors, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497(a) and (b), identifying the application by the International application number and international filing date.
- \$130 Surcharge for providing the oath or declaration later than the appropriate 30 months from the priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)) is required.

ALL OF THE ITEMS SET FORTH ABOVE MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN TWO (2) MONTH FROM THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR BY 22 or 32 MONTHS (where 37 CFR 1.495 applies) FROM THE PRIORITY DATE FOR THE APPLICATION, WHICHEVER IS LATER. FAILURE TO PROPERLY RESPOND WILL RESULT IN ABANDONMENT.

The time period set above may be extended by filing a petition and fee for extension of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

SUMMARY OF FEES DUE:

Total additional fees required for this application is **\$260** for a Large Entity:

- **\$130** Late oath or declaration Surcharge.
- **\$130** for English translation surcharge required.

Applicant is reminded that any communications to the United States Patent and Trademark Office must be mailed to the address given in the heading and include the U.S. application no. shown above (37 CFR 1.5)

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the response.*

DARRELL C COTTMAN

Telephone: (703) 305-3693

PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER NO.	INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.	ATTY. DOCKET NO.
10/088,675	PCT/EP00/08613	PO7569US00/WEJ

FORM PCT/DO/EO/905 (371 Formalities Notice)